

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 214

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Major General Paul Frederick Hamm of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Major General Paul Frederick Hamm (ret.); and

WHEREAS, Major General Hamm was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Major General Paul Hamm rendered thirty-eight years of faithful and honorable service to the United States Army, serving seven years of active duty and thirty-one years in the U.S. Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, a native of Maryland, Major General Hamm graduated from Bowie High School in Bowie, Maryland, in 1969, and was commissioned upon graduation from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1973, with a Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, he earned his Master in Business Administration at Memphis State University in 1981 and a second master's degree from the Army War College; and

WHEREAS, Major General Hamm commanded units at all levels, from Platoon Leader to 2-star Command; he began his military career with the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Infantry Division (Forward) in Germany, serving in company-level positions and in the G-3 Training Office; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States in 1977, he received orders to report to the Memphis District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a project officer and later as Deputy District Engineer; and

WHEREAS, in Memphis, Major General Hamm took an Army Reserve commission and served assignments with the 3291st USARF School, the 467th Engineer Battalion, and the 353rd Engineer Group; and

WHEREAS, he was the Chief of Staff of the 90th Regional Support Command in Little Rock, Arkansas, and served as the Engineer for the Eighth U.S. Army in South Korea; upon selection as a General Officer, Major General Hamm was assigned to the 412th Theater Engineer Command located in Vicksburg, Mississippi, where he served as the Deputy, and, later, as the Commanding General, which was his final assignment before taking his much-deserved retirement from the Army in October 2011; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his exemplary military service, Major General Paul Hamm was awarded a number of medals and ribbons, including the Distinguished Service Medal, four Legions of Merit, and the Silver de Fleury Medal, which recognizes excellence in engineering; and

WHEREAS, in his civilian life, Major General Hamm worked for fifteen years as a co-founder and partner with Lockridge & Associates, Inc., a construction management services company for large projects, and later served as a construction manager for Lurgi PSI in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, he left Lurgi PSI to accept a job with the federal government, where he served as a professional engineer and project manager with the Memphis District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, from which he retired in October 2014; and

WHEREAS, Major General Hamm was an active and devout member of St. Louis Catholic Church and, later, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his best friend and wife of thirty-nine years, Carol Buchignani Hamm, and was the proud parent of Ashley Caton Hamm, Andrew Paul Hamm, and Gwen Follis (Michael) Driscoll, and adoring grandfather of Lucy Driscoll; and

WHEREAS, he will be sadly mourned but fondly remembered by his sister, Mary Elissa (Eddie) Eskew; his niece, Catie Eskew; and a host of extended family members and dear friends; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Frederick and Ruth Caton Hamm, and his stepson, John (Tripp) Follis III; and

WHEREAS, Major General Paul Hamm leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Major General Paul Frederick Hamm, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Major General Hamm.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.